(क) क्या सरकार का इंडियन एयरलाइंस के सेवा निवृत्त होने वाले कर्मचारियों को पेंशन दिए जाने का कोई प्रस्ताव है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है और इसके कब तक पूरा हो जाने की संभावना है ; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है ?

नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री माधव राव सिंधिया) : (क) से (ग) इंडियन एयरलाइंस के कर्मचारियों में अंशदायी भविष्य निधि और उपदान सेवा-निवृत्ति-उत्तर लाभ उपलब्ध है। पेंशन योजना शुरू किए जाने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

Site for New Airport in Bangalore

222. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to news reports emanating from U.N.I. Bangalore on 27th of October, 1991 indicating that work relating to identification of a site for a new airport for Bangalore has come to a virtual standstill;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what corrective steps have been taken or proposed in this regard;

(c) whether Government have set up any time frame for completion of this important airport and if so, details thereof; and

(d) whether Government will ensure a futuristic design for this prestigious International Airport and if necessary will assign the work to overseas experienced architects?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However the contents of news report are not correct, the Committee set for finding the site for an alternative airport near Bangalore is holding its meetings from time to time and it is expected to submit its report by December, 1991.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) It is premature to consider these aspects.

Extension of runway at Gokul airport Hubli

223. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether runway of Gokul Airport at Hubli is now being extended to 2,500 metres;

(b) whether this will enable boeings and airbuses, the main aircraft of Indian Airlines, to use this airport; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to build a standard runway of 3,500 metres at Hubli?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The National Airports Authority has not plan to extend runway at Hubli.

Production and export of Handicrafts

224. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking steps to increase the production and export of handicrafts;

(b) if so, the steps taken to increase the production and export of handicrafts from Orissa;

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

Statement

(b) and (c) Schemes for increasing production, sale and exports of handicrafts are implemented by the Government of India on an all India basis, and the State of Orissa also derives benefits out of these. Among the schemes which are operated by the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textiles, the following are related to increased production or exports or contributing towards increasing production or increasing exports:—

1. Financial assistance to State Handicrafts Development Corporations, Apex Handicrafts Co-operative Societies and Voluntary Organisations for:—

(a) Setting up|expansion|renovation of emporia.

(b) Setting up raw material depots and Common Facility Service Centres.

(c) Setting up Craft Development Centres.

(d) Organising exhibitions-cum-sales in various parts of the country.

(e) Undertaking training programmes departmentally or through the above mentioned agencies.

2. Apart from the above, various export promotion measures including organising sales-cum-study teams, export delegations, buyer-seller meets etc. are undertaken. Export of handicrafts are also eligible for export assistance in the form of EXIM Scripts, duty drawbacks etc.

3. The Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) has two Marketing and Service Extension Centres in the State of Orissa, located at Bhubaneshwar and Sambalpur. These Centres organise various promotional and developmental programmes such as Market Meets, Product Promotion Programmes, Craft Bazars, Melas etc.

4. The regional Design and Technical Development|countries including one at Calcutta for the Eastern region, help crafts-persons in evolving new designs and techniques to help boost their production and sales. The Craft Council of Orissa has been financially assisted for conducting surveys of handicrafts in the State.

Permission to Foreign Companies to carry cargo from one port to another

225. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have allowed foreign liners to carry cargo from one port to another of the country;

(b) if so, the number of ships and quantum of cargo lifted by foreign liners since their inception;

(c) whether Government have estimated the loss in foreign exchange earnings and its effect on the earnings of Shipping Corporation of India as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take to offset these losses

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) A policy decision has been taken to temporarily permit carriage of ISO containers from one Indian port to another by the foreign